

Message Text

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ACTION HA-05

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9362
USMISSION GENEVA
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS ADDIS ABABA 3526

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SREF, UNHCR, ET
SUBJ: UNHCR REGIONAL LIAISON OFFICE FOR AFRICA APPEALS
FOR ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

1. THE ADDIS ABABA-BASED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNCHR REGIONAL LIAISON OFFICE FOR AFRICA, ASSANE SAMB, HAS SENT A LETTER TO AMBASSADOR (AND IDENTICAL LETTERS TO MOST DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN ADDIS) REQUESTING FROM "YOUR GOVERNMENT A GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION TO UNHCR FOR 1979 WHICH WOULD BE ANNOUNCED AT THE ANNUAL PLEDGING CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN NEW YORK IN NOV 1978."

2. SAMB'S LETTER ENCLOSED A COPY OF A UNHCR PUBLICATION ENTITLED "A SYNOPTIC NOTE ON UNHCR'S ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND PRINCIPAL CONCERNS IN 1978." ASSUME THIS DOCUMENT IS AVAILABLE TO ADDRESSEES. IT LISTS PRINCIPAL UNHCR CONCERNS AS OF JUNE 1978, INCLUDING US \$5.5 MILLION FOR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE IN THE OGADEN AREA OF ETHIOPIA, AND OTHER WORLD-WIDE PROJECTS WHOSE TOTAL REQUIREMENTS FOR 1978 AMOUNT TO US \$111.7 MILLION. CONTRIBUTIONS FROM GOVERNMENTS ARE LISTED (INCLUDING ONE FROM THE USG FOR US\$8,954,000 BUT NONE FROM THE SOVIET BLOC), THE TOTAL OF WHICH AS OF UNCLASSIFIED

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30 JUNE 1978 IS APPROXIMATELY US \$65.9 MILLION. THE UNHCR SHORTFALL IS THUS US \$45.8 MILLION.

3. THE USG HAS PROVIDED SUBSTANTIAL ASSISTANCE FOR EMERGENCY CARE AND RESETTLEMENT OF UPROOTED OR DISPLACED PERSONS IN ETHIOPIA DURING THE PAST FOUR YEARS. LATEST USG CONTRIBUTION TO UNHCR WAS FOR US \$3.1 MILLION ON MAY 24 IN RESPONSE

TO AN APPEAL BY UNHCR FOR US \$12.5 MILLION TO HELP DIS-
PLACED PERSONS AND REFUGEES IN ETHIOPIA, SOMALIA AND DJI-
BOUTI (STATE 133863). \$12.5 MILLION IS INCLUDED IN UNHCR
DOCUMENT AS PART OF TOTAL UNHCR REQUIREMENTS OF \$111.7
MILLION. ON 10 AUGUST 1978, THE AMBASSADOR DECLARED A DIS-
ASTER IN BALE AND SIDANO ADMINISTRATIVE REGIONS (PARTS OF
THE OGADEN AREA) AND THE USG PLANS TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL
\$400,000 IN RELIEF ASSISTANCE FOR UPROOTED PERSONS IN THESE
AREAS.

4. WE WILL REPLY TO SAMB IN THE NEXT TEN DAYS ALONG THE
LINES OF PRECEDING PARAGRAPH NOTING FURTHER THAT WORLDWIDE
WNHCR NEEDS, USG CONTRIBUTIONS THERETO, AND THE ANNUAL
PLEDGING CONFERENCES ARE TOPICS TREATED IN GENEVA, WHICH
WE ASSUME HAS BEEN DONE. IF DEPT WISHES US TO COMMENT ON
SAMB'S REQUEST FOR A GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION TO BE ANNOUNCED
AT THE NOVEMBER ANNUAL PLEDGING CONFERENCE, PLEASE PROVIDE
GUIDANCE.
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